

BARON P. HILL
9TH DISTRICT, INDIANA

COMMITTEE ON
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1409

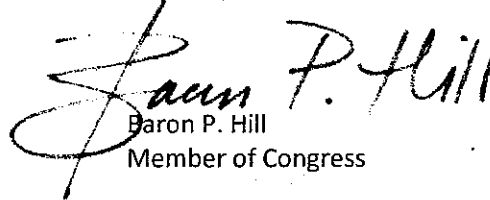
UAW on the Peru-FTA

November 6, 2007

Dear Colleague,

I would like to bring your attention to the recent letter from the United Auto Workers (UAW) commending the efforts of the Committee on Ways and Means for negotiating a fair free trade agreement with Peru. This letter highlights the UAW's support for the strong labor standards included in the trade agreement. Please read the attached letter.

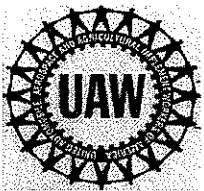
Sincerely,


Baron P. Hill
Member of Congress

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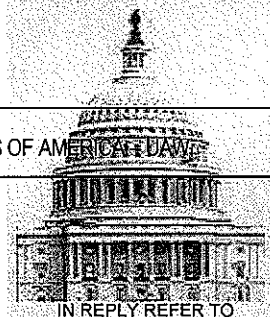


INTERNATIONAL UNION, UNITED AUTOMOBILE, AEROSPACE & AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA

RON GETTELFINGER, President

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October 2, 2007

Dear Representative:

In the near future the House will take up the proposed U.S.-Peru Free Trade Agreement (Peru FTA). The UAW wishes to share with you our views on this free trade deal.

First, it is important to recognize that the Peru FTA does not pose a significant threat to the jobs of American workers. Trade from Peru is too small to have a significant impact on the U.S. economy. Peru does not have any automotive industry that would pose a threat to the jobs of UAW members. No other union has identified members' jobs that would be threatened by this trade deal. To the contrary, some entertainment industry unions have indicated that the Peru FTA will actually provide greater protection for the jobs of their members.

Second, the UAW strongly supports the provisions on worker rights and the environment that have been included in the Peru FTA. These provisions require Peru to adopt, maintain and enforce in their own laws and in practice the five internationally-recognized labor standards, as stated in the 1998 ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work. They also require Peru to adopt, implement and effectively enforce laws and regulations to fulfill its obligations under various multilateral environmental agreements. Significantly, these core worker rights and environmental protections are subject to the same dispute settlement and enforcement mechanisms as commercial provisions of the trade agreement.

The UAW commends Ways and Means Committee Chairman Charles Rangel and Trade Subcommittee Chairman Sander Levin for their efforts in negotiating these important provisions dealing with worker rights and the environment. They represent substantial progress in achieving this longstanding objective of the labor movement. We believe these provisions will help to prevent globalization from fostering a race to the bottom that undermines the standard of living and quality of life for workers throughout the world.

Contrary to the assertions of some critics, the UAW does not believe that approval of the Peru FTA would be a "slippery slope" leading to approval of all other pending trade deals, including the proposed U.S.-Korea FTA and U.S.-Colombia FTA, or to an extension of "fast track" trade negotiating authority. We applaud

Speaker Pelosi and other Democratic leaders for the strong trade policy statement they issued on June 29 expressing opposition to these two trade deals, and indicating that their legislative priorities do not include extension of "fast track" authority.

The UAW continues to oppose the U.S.-Korea trade deal because its unfair auto provisions would lead to a surge in automotive imports from Korea, while allowing Korea to maintain a variety of non-tariff barriers that effectively exclude U.S.-built automotive products from the Korean market. These one-sided auto provisions pose a direct threat to the jobs of tens of thousands of American workers. We also oppose the U.S.-Colombia trade deal because it does nothing to guarantee that there will be a halt to the widespread violence against trade union officials and other human rights activists in Columbia. Finally, we oppose any extension of "fast track" trade negotiating authority because of the abysmal record of the Bush administration on trade policy. Instead, we urge Congress to move forward with positive trade measures, including legislation to combat currency manipulation and to reauthorize and improve the trade adjustment assistance program.

Thank you for considering our views on these important trade issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alan Reuther".

Alan Reuther
Legislative Director

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L8359